DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR DEVELOPMENT OF WATER QUALITY STUDY

PUBLIC MEETING: Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 2:30pm at the Rowanty Technical Center located at 20000 Rowanty Road, Carson, VA 23830.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing a water quality study to identify and quantify the bacteria pollution sources in an unnamed tributary (UT) to Nebletts Mill Run in Sussex County and Hatcher Run in Dinwiddie County. This notice announces the first public meetings on May 5th and a public comment opportunity, which begins on May 6th.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Overview and summary of the research to date of water quality impairments of the recreation/swimming use (mentioned above) which are due to bacterial violations. Meeting will serve as an opportunity for the public to offer input regarding the impaired watersheds and to ask questions regarding the water quality study and report development. No final results will be available at this meeting.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of the bacterial contamination for Hatcher Run and an UT to Nebletts Mill Run. This former impairment spans approximately 4 miles and the latter approximately 2 miles. These waterways are impaired for failure to meet the recreational (swimming) designated use due to exceedances of the bacterial water quality standard.

Waterbody	Location	Impaired Length (mi)	Impairment
Hatcher Run (VAP_K23R-05-BAC)	Dinwiddie County (from headwaters to the pond below Rt. 627)	4.36	Recreational Use
Un-named Tributary to Nebletts Mill Run (VAP_K23R-03-BAC)	Sussex County	1.73	(Swimming)
Total Impaired Length		6.09	

The study reports on the current status of the streams via sampling performed by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the possible sources of bacterial contamination. The study recommends total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, for the above impairments. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, bacteria levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax, or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by

DEQ during the comment period, which expires June 7, 2010. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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